

## NATURAL RESOURCE COMMISSION[571]

## Adopted and Filed Emergency After Notice

Pursuant to the authority of Iowa Code subsection 455A.5(6), the Natural Resource Commission hereby amends Chapter 91, "Waterfowl and Coot Hunting Seasons," Iowa Administrative Code.

These rules give the regulations for hunting waterfowl and coot and include season dates, bag limits, possession limits, shooting hours, and areas open to hunting. The amendments make annual adjustments to the season dates to comply with federal regulations and to ensure that the seasons open on a weekend.

Notice of Intended Action was published in the Iowa Administrative Bulletin on May 18, 2011, as **ARC 9506B**. A public hearing was held on June 7, 2011. A dozen comments were received from the public during the comment period. Most supported the proposed season dates, but some asked that the opening of the duck season in the south zone be moved up one week. Although a survey of hunter preferences indicated that slightly more hunters would prefer to hunt earlier in the fall rather than later, a majority also prefer that the seasons for the two zones open on different dates; therefore, no changes were made as a result of these comments. The only change in the adopted amendments is in 91.3(2) and 91.3(3) and reflects a change in the federal regulations, which added two days to the length of the white-fronted goose season.

The Department finds, pursuant to Iowa Code section 17A.5(2)"b"(2), that the normal effective date of these amendments should be waived and that these amendments should be made effective August 19, 2011, as the amendments confer a benefit by establishing a September 3 start date to the goose season in the urban zones.

After analysis and review of this rule making, no impact on jobs has been found.

These amendments are intended to implement Iowa Code sections 481A.38, 481A.39, and 481A.48.

These amendments became effective August 19, 2011.

The following amendments are adopted.

ITEM 1. Amend subrules 91.1(1) to 91.1(3) as follows:

**91.1(1) Zone boundaries.** The north duck hunting zone is that part of Iowa north of a line beginning on the ~~Nebraska-Iowa border at~~ South Dakota-Iowa border at Interstate 29, southeast to Woodbury County Road D38, east to Woodbury County Road K45, southeast to State Highway 175, east to State Highway 37, southeast to State Highway 183, northeast to State Highway 141, east to U.S. Highway 30, and along U.S. Highway 30 to the Iowa-Illinois border. The south duck hunting zone is the remainder of the state.

**91.1(2) Season dates - north zone.** For all ducks: September ~~18~~ 17 through September ~~22~~ 21 and October ~~16~~ 15 through December ~~9~~ 8.

**91.1(3) Season dates - south zone.** For all ducks: September ~~18~~ 17 through September ~~22~~ 21 and October ~~23~~ 22 through December ~~16~~ 15.

ITEM 2. Amend subrules 91.3(1) to 91.3(3), 91.3(7) and 91.3(9) to 91.3(11) as follows:

**91.3(1) Zone boundaries.** The north goose hunting zone is that part of Iowa north of a line beginning on the ~~Nebraska-Iowa border at~~ South Dakota-Iowa border at Interstate 29, southeast to Woodbury County Road D38, east to Woodbury County Road K45, southeast to State Highway 175, east to State Highway 37, southeast to State Highway 183, northeast to State Highway 141, east to U.S. Highway 30, and along U.S. Highway 30 to the Iowa-Illinois border. The south goose hunting zone is the remainder of the state.

**91.3(2) Season dates - north zone.** Canada geese and brant: September ~~25~~ 24 through October ~~10~~ 9 and October ~~16~~ 15 through January ~~5, 2011~~ 4, 2012. White-fronted geese: September ~~25~~ 24 through December ~~5~~ 6. Light geese (white and blue-phase snow geese and Ross' geese): September ~~25~~ 24 through January ~~9, 2011~~ 8, 2012.

**91.3(3) Season dates - south zone.** Canada geese and brant: October ~~2~~ 1 through October ~~17~~ 16 and October ~~23~~ 22 through January ~~12, 2011~~ 11, 2012. White-fronted geese: October ~~2~~ 1 through December

~~12~~ 13. Light geese (white and blue-phase snow geese and Ross' geese): October ~~2~~ 1 through January ~~14, 2011~~ 13, 2012.

**91.3(7)** *Light goose conservation order season.* Only light geese (white and blue-phase snow geese and Ross' geese) may be taken under a conservation order from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service from January ~~15, 2011~~ 14, 2012, through April 15, ~~2011~~ 2012.

a. to e. No change.

**91.3(9)** *Cedar Rapids/Iowa City goose hunting zone.*

a. *Season dates.* September 4 ~~3~~ through September ~~12~~ 11.

b. to d. No change.

**91.3(10)** *Des Moines goose hunting zone.*

a. *Season dates.* September 4 ~~3~~ through September ~~12~~ 11.

b. to d. No change.

**91.3(11)** *Cedar Falls/Waterloo goose hunting zone.*

a. *Season dates.* September 4 ~~3~~ through September ~~12~~ 11.

b. to d. No change.

ITEM 3. Amend rule 571—91.6(481A) as follows:

**571—91.6(481A) Youth waterfowl hunt.** A special youth waterfowl hunt will be held on October ~~2 and 3, 2010~~ 1 and 2, 2011, in the north duck hunting zone and October ~~9 and 10, 2010~~ 8 and 9, 2011, in the south duck hunting zone. Youth hunters must be residents of Iowa as defined in Iowa Code section 483A.1A and less than 16 years old. Each youth hunter must be accompanied by an adult 18 years old or older. The youth hunter does not need to have a hunting license or stamps. The adult must have a valid hunting license and habitat stamp if normally required to have them to hunt and a state waterfowl stamp. Only the youth hunter may shoot ducks and coots. The adult may hunt for any other game birds for which the season is open. The daily bag and possession limits are the same as for the regular waterfowl season, as defined in rule 571—91.1(481A). All other hunting regulations in effect for the regular waterfowl season apply to the youth hunt.

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EDITOR'S NOTE: For replacement pages for IAC, see IAC Supplement 9/7/11.